

Wonder Man

in the
claws of
HELLCAT!

MARVEL

2

DUGGAN
RAFFAELE
BUCKINGHAM
JIMENEZ
ROSENBERG

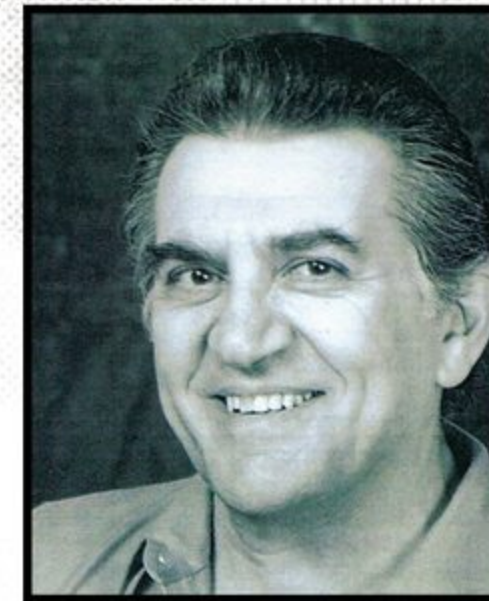
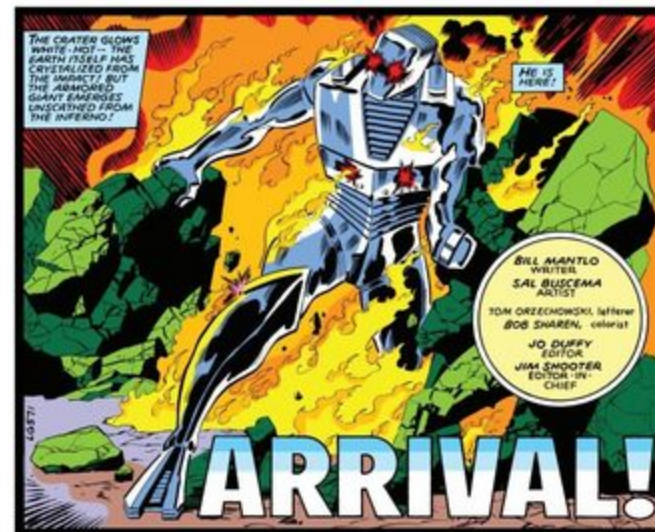
RATED T+

SAL BUSCEMA

1936-2026



Marvel pauses to remember Sal Buscema, a foundational Marvel artist since 1969. Buscema was a prolific penciler and inker, working on nearly every Marvel character. His clear, dynamic storytelling was a feature of long, historic runs on *Spectacular Spider-Man*, *Incredible Hulk* and *Rom*. Buscema was famed for drawing bombastic roundhouse punches that sent characters sprawling across the page, but he could also be capable of great subtlety and emotion in his character acting. "Our Pal Sal" will be missed by generations of Marvel fans.



Sal Buscema



WHA-KRAK!

DOESN'T ANYBODY DO ANY GARDENING IN THIS CITY?

EVIDENTLY YOU DO, HELLCAT.

GOT BORED WAITING FOR YOU, SIMON. YEESH.

GLAD IT WASN'T AN EMERGENCY AND I NEEDED BACKUP.

IT DOESN'T NEED TO BE AN EMERGENCY FOR YOU TO NEED ME, PATSY.



OUR PAL RANDY CAME IN ON HIS OWN TO DISCUSS THE LITTLE MATTER OF THE CORPSE.

HE'S WITH HIS LAWYER, RIGHT?



HE WANTED TO CHAT WITHOUT COUNSEL.

OH BOY. HIS AGENT, MATTHEW WALTERS, ISN'T GONNA LIKE THAT.



I KNOW YOU TWO ARE OLD FRIENDS.

WELL, "FRIENDS" IS DOING A LOT OF HEAVY LIFTING IN THAT SENTENCE.



WHAT'S THIS GUY'S STORY? FOR REAL. AS A PROFESSIONAL COURTESY.

WELL, THE PUBLIC STORY IS...

"...RANDOLPH CHANCELLOR'S AN ACTOR AND TV HOST. WE MET IN PRISON--AS YOU KNOW, HE'S INTO "EXTRACURRICULAR" EARNING, ON OCCASION, AND HIS FORMER LIFE AS A TRAVEL HOST TOOK HIM TO SOMEWHERE MYSTERIOUS IN *ITALY*.



"TO HEAR HIM TELL THE STORY, WHILE SHOOTING AT THE RUINS OF A TEMPLE DEDICATED TO *FORTUNA*, THE GODDESS OF LUCK AND FERTILITY, HE WAS OVERCOME BY RAIDERS WHO HAD ARRIVED TO ROB A SECRET CHAMBER.



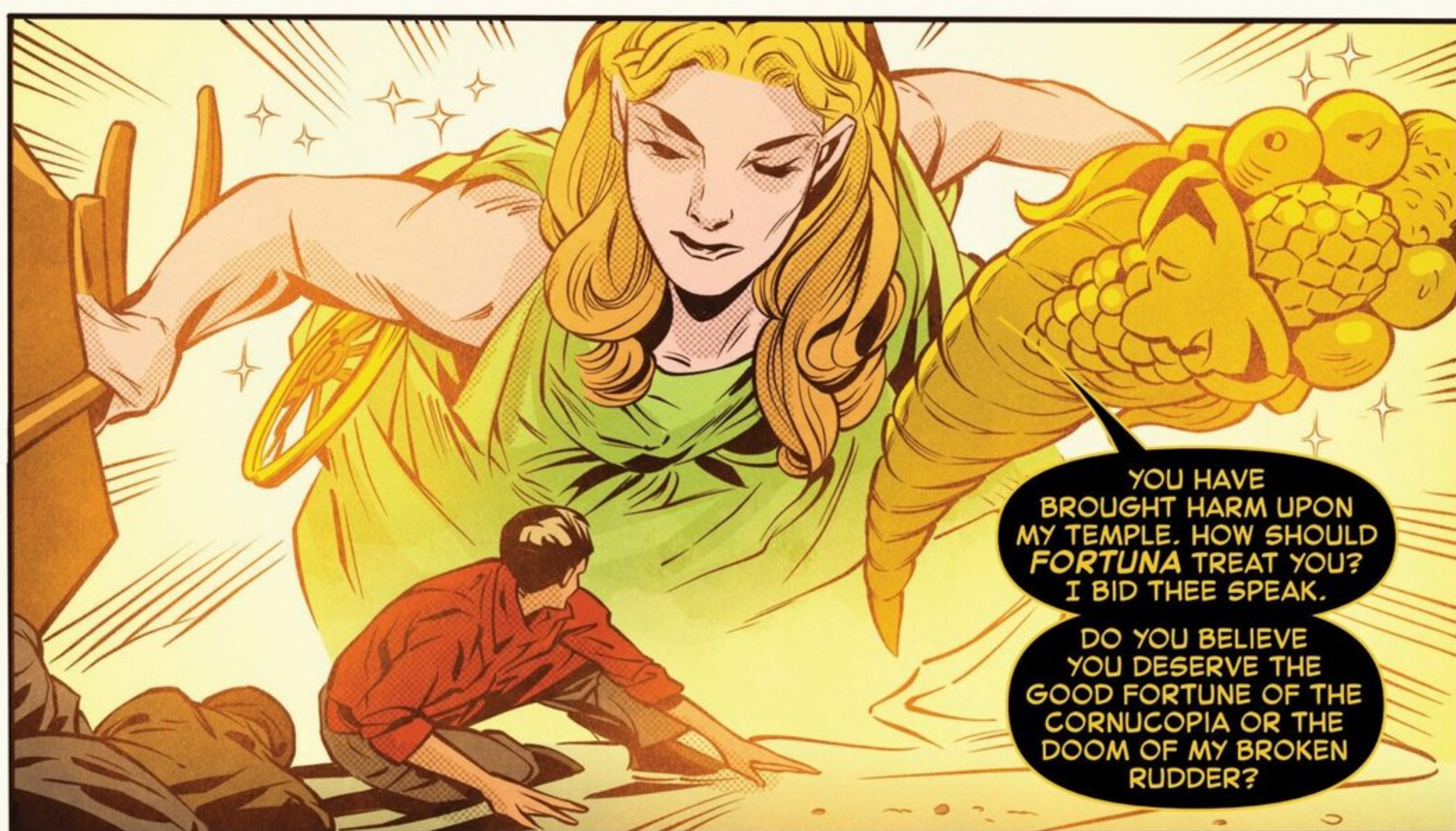
"HE'D FOUND THE TREASURE ON A SCOUT BEFORE THE TAPING, AND HE COULD NEVER ADEQUATELY EXPLAIN HOW THE RAIDERS JUST *SHOWED UP*...



"ANYWAY, THERE WAS SOME PRICELESS ARTIFACT THAT BELONGED IN A MUSEUM, AND UNSURPRISINGLY...











OH MY GOD, THAT HAS TO BE THE **STUPIDEST** STORY YOU'VE EVER HEARD, RIGHT?

WELL, IT MIGHT BE IF SOMEBODY HADN'T MADE AN ANDROID BASED ON MY BRAIN PATTERN AND THEN I HAD TO WATCH AS THAT ANDROID MARRIED THE WOMAN I LOVED.

THEN **MAYBE** RANDOLPH'S ORIGIN WOULD BLOW MY HAIR BACK.



TOUCHE.

EVEN IF HE'S NOT BEEN BLESSED OR CURSED BY FORTUNA-- RANDOLPH THINKS HE HAS. BUT I TELL YOU... I'VE SEEN LOTS OF **WEIRD** STUFF WITH HIM.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING TALKING TO COPS WITHOUT AN ATTORNEY, RANDOLPH?

I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG!

YES, YOU DID--YOU TALKED TO COPS WITHOUT LAWYERS!



SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOU DEAR OLD "CELLIES," BUT HOW'D IT GO FOR YOU WITH THE LAPD, RANDOLPH?

HAVE YOU BEEN ELIMINATED AS A SUSPECT?



SIMON, REMEMBER YOU AGREED TO FLY ME TO MY LAWYER'S.

RIGHT AWAY, RIGHT NOW!

YOUR INTERVIEW WENT THAT GREAT, HUH?



HEY, PATSY--I'LL HIT YOU UP LATER. IF YOU WANNA GRILL SOMEBODY, TAKE ME ON.

MAYBE I WILL TAKE THAT BUSINESS, HIMBO.

WHAT?

NOTHING!

WONDER MAN



"THE TWO"

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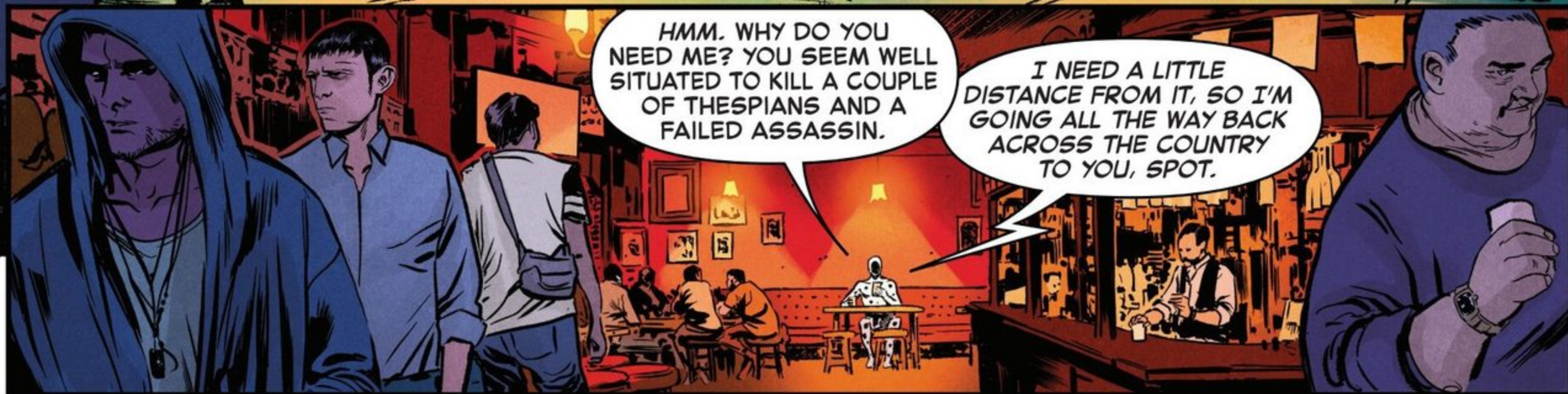
WONDER MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE, DON HECK AND JACK KIRBY







EAST COAST INTERLUDE...
AT THE BAR WITH NO NAME.



WEST COAST AVENGERS CAMPUS,
FORMERLY SANTA MONICA AIRPORT.



KILLERWATT--
HOW YOU BEEN,
BUDDY?

GOOD, SI!
WELCOME BACK
TO THE AVENGERS'
WEST COAST
CAMPUS.



HOW'S
FIRESTAR?

SHE'S GREAT.
STAYING ON PROGRAM
AND COLLECTING HER
CHIPS EVERY MONTH
NOW.

CHECK OUT WEST
COAST AVENGERS
FOR MORE INFO! --DK



THAT'S
FANTASTIC!

LISTEN.
THANKS FOR
LETTING US MEET
HERE--

THE HEAT'S
ON OUT THERE, AND MY
BUDDY RANDOLPH AND I
NEED A PLACE TO MEET
WITH HIS TEAM AWAY
FROM CAMERAS.

I'M BEING
ASKED TO KEEP
THIS QUIET BY
STUDIOS.



YEAH, I NOTICED A MURDER OF LAWYERS
AND CRISIS FOLKS HEADING TOWARD
THE CONTROL TOWER.

HEY,
ONE OTHER
FAVOR--

--I'M UP FOR
A PART IN THIS
DARKHAWK MOVIE AND
I NEED TO PROVIDE A
SELF-TAPED AUDITION--
WANNA FLY
LATER?



YEAH, SURE,
BUD. AS LONG
AS KANG OR
GALACTUS DON'T
SHOW UP AND
#\$%& UP OUR
DAY.



IT'S WITH GREAT SADNESS THAT WE MOURN EVERYBODY'S FAVORITE PILATES DATE AND BUSINESS MANAGER, BETH.

SHE WAS MORE THAN THAT, MATTHEW--



I'M VERY GLAD I CAN BE HERE TO SUPPORT RANDOLPH IN HIS TIME OF NEED.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP.



BETH IS--WAS A SWEET PERSON. I THINK SHE REALLY LIKED ME. I REALLY LIKED HER. I'M SO SORRY SHE'S GONE.

I KNOW IT'S WEIRD TO BE FRIENDS WITH BENEFITS WITH MY BUSINESS MANAGER, BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO MEET WOMEN LIKE I USED TO. I'M OLD. SHE SAID SHE MET SOMEONE ELSE. IT WASN'T ME. I BELIEVED HER.



I THINK PERHAPS I SHOULD HEAD BACK TO EUROPE?

YES!



NO, NO, NO!

SIMON, WHAT WILL THAT MAKE HIM LOOK LIKE?



LIKE HE'S GUILTY.

I THINK IT'LL LOOK LIKE HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE ASSASSINATED. THERE'S STILL A CONTRACT ON HIS HEAD.



AND WHAT DOES OUR CRISIS TEAM THINK?



WE AGREE WITH MATTHEW.

YOU DON'T WANT TO LOOK GUILTY.



~~SIGH~~ ARE WE REALLY OKAY WITH RANDOLPH STICKING AROUND?



RANDOLPH, YOU'VE DONE NOTHING WRONG.

BESIDES, YOU NEED TO GET ME THAT AUDIOBOOK RECORDING YOU OWE ME.

STAY VISIBLE, GO TO DINNERS, MOVIES. THIS STORM WILL BLOW OVER!



I GOTTA FLY-- AND, WONDER MAN-- WHERE'S THAT SELF-TAPE AUDITION FOR DARK-HAWK?

I GOT A SCENE PARTNER!



YOU'RE NOTHING TO ME, DARKHAWK! I AM ANNIHILUS, THE EMPEROR OF THE NEGATIVE ZONE!

I WILL NEVER YIELD TO A COCKROACH FROM SPACE!



AARGH!



I REFUSE TO LOSE!



THAT GOOD?

ARE YOU KIDDING?! THIS IS **GREAT**. EVERY OTHER ACTOR SUBMITTING IS RECORDING FROM THEIR CLOSET OR LIVING ROOM!



WE'RE **MIDAIR**! THIS LOOKS LIKE A MILLION BUCKS--

UH-OH. THANKS FOR THE HELP, BUD. I GOTTA GO AND FRESHEN UP--



I need you.

--I GOT A DATE.



I'M SORRY.
YOUR CLOTHES.
YOUR FLOWERS.

WERE YOU
UNDER THE
IMPRESSION I
ASKED YOU ON
A DATE?



UM.
N-NO.

I STOPPED
AND HELPED
SOMEONE AND THEY,
UH, GAVE ME
THESE?



EH...
WHO AM I
KIDDING?

I CAN'T
KEEP GOING BACK
TO DATING AVENGERS
AND VIGILANTES. I KEEP
WRECKING MY FRIENDSHIPS.
WANDA SHOULD'VE
BEEN A CAUTIONARY
TALE.

AND JAN.
AND CAROL. AND
NATASHA.



I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU WERE FAR
ENOUGH FROM MY USUAL DEBRIS
FIELD THAT I COULD ENTICE YOU
TO BOARD THIS TITANIC FROM THE
ICEBERG. TAKE THEM.
FREELY GIVEN.

DON'T FEEL
BAD, SI. YOU'RE THE
ONLY AVENGER WHO
TONY STARK HASN'T
#&%&.

ACTUALLY,
HE DID TESTIFY
AGAINST ME AT
MY FIRST TRIAL.



HA!
THEN I STAND
CORRECTED.

~SNIFF~

YOU PICKED
SOME NICE FLOWERS,
MR. WILLIAMS.



I'M A LITTLE NERVOUS WHAT THIS IS ABOUT, IF IT'S NOT A DATE. AND NOW YOU'RE LEADING ME INTO JAIL, WHICH I'LL BE HONEST WITH YOU...

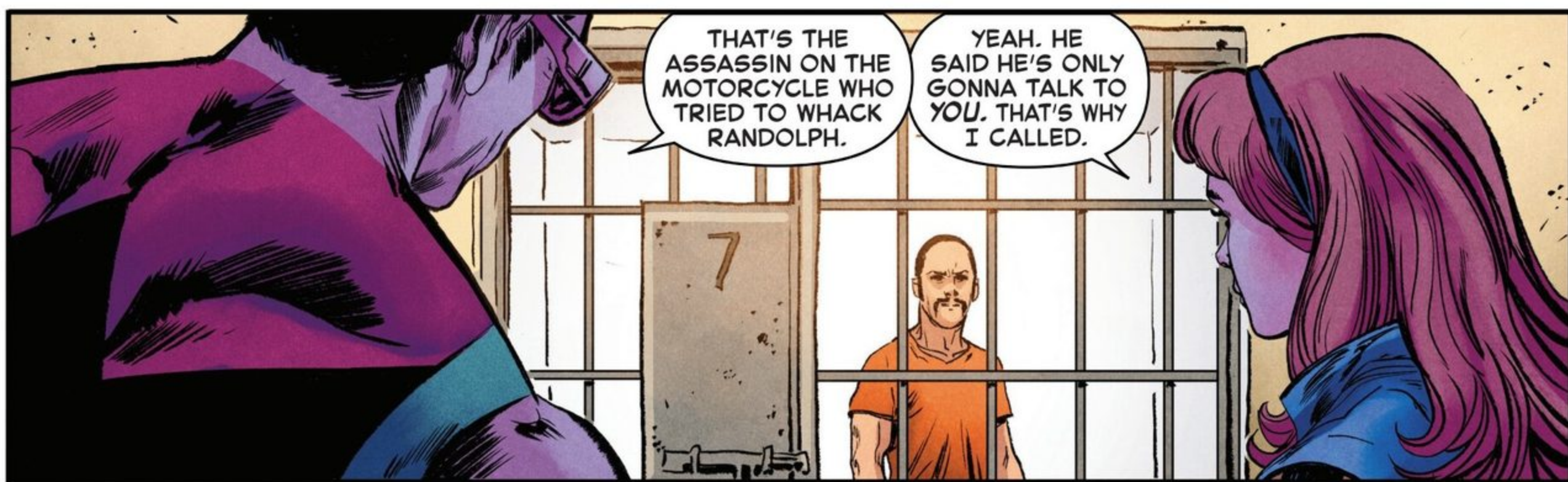
...HAS BEEN REALLY TRIGGERING FOR ME SINCE I WAS SENT TO JAIL.

SORRY, SI. I'LL MAKE IT UP TO YOU.



BY LETTING ME TAKE YOU TO MUSSO AND FRANK'S?

MAYBE WHEN THE CASE IS OVER.



THAT'S THE ASSASSIN ON THE MOTORCYCLE WHO TRIED TO WHACK RANDOLPH.

YEAH. HE SAID HE'S ONLY GONNA TALK TO YOU. THAT'S WHY I CALLED.



WELCOME TO YOUR DATE NIGHT, SIMON WILLIAMS. HE'S WAITING FOR YOU.



YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON? THE VOICE-DEAL THING?











NEXT

TITLE

AVP



3

TITLE

AVP

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